

WHAT IS CLAIMED:

1. A method of processing audio information for broadcast to an audience comprising:

5 changing first audio information from occurring in a first time interval to occurring in a second time interval to provide time-changed audio information; and combining the time-changed audio information with second audio information that is responsive to the first audio information to provide broadcast audio information.

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2. A method according to Claim 1 wherein the first audio information is provided by a first source; and

wherein the second audio information is provided by a second source that is remote from the first source.

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3. A method according to Claim 2 wherein the first audio information is transmitted to the second source over a communications link; and

wherein the second audio information is transmitted over the communications link to the first source.

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4. A method according to Claim 1 wherein changing the first audio information from occurring in the first time interval to occurring in the second time interval comprises time-expanding the first audio information from occurring in the first time interval to occurring in the second time interval that is greater than the first interval.

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5. A method according to Claim 4 wherein the time-changed audio information comprises first time-changed audio information, the method further comprising:

30 changing the second audio information from occurring in a third time interval to occurring in a fourth time interval to provide second time-changed audio information, wherein the combining comprises combining the first time-changed audio information with second time-changed audio information to provide the broadcast audio information.

6. A method according to Claim 5 further comprising:
determining that the first time-changed audio information and the second
audio information occur during an overlapping time interval; and

5 wherein changing the second audio information comprises time-compressing
the second audio information to occur in the fourth time interval that is greater than
the third time interval.

7. A method according to Claim 1 wherein a difference between the first
10 time interval and the second time interval is based on a delay between a transmission
time at which the first audio information is transmitted from a source to a destination
and a reception time at which the first audio information is received at the destination.

8. A method according to Claim 1 wherein a difference between the first
15 time interval and the second time interval is based on a delay between a transmission
time at which the second audio information is transmitted from a source to a
destination and a reception time at which the second audio information is received at
the destination.

9. A method according to Claim 1 wherein a difference between the first
20 time interval and the second time interval is based on a first delay between a first
transmission time at which the first audio information is transmitted from a source to
a destination and a first reception time at which the first audio information is received
at the destination and further based on a difference between the first time interval and
25 the second time interval is based on a second delay between a second transmission
time at which the second audio information is transmitted from the destination to the
source and a second reception time at which the second audio information is received
at the source.

10. A method according to Claim 7 wherein the at least one of the first and
30 second audio information is transmitted over a satellite communications link.

11. A method according to Claim 7 wherein the at least one of the first and
second audio information is transmitted over a voice over IP communications link.

12. A method according to Claim 11 wherein the delay is estimated based on a quality of service parameter associated with the voice over IP communications link.

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13. An electronic communication device for processing audio information broadcast to an audience, the device comprising:

a processor circuit configured to change first audio information from occurring in a first time interval to occurring in a second time interval to provide time-changed audio information; and

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a combiner circuit configured to combine the time-changed audio information with second audio information that is responsive to the first audio information to provide broadcast audio information.

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14. A device according to Claim 13 wherein the processor circuit is configured to time-expand the first audio information from occurring in the first time interval to occurring in the second time interval that is greater than the first interval.

15. A device according to Claim 14 wherein the time-changed audio information comprises first time-changed audio information, the processor circuit is further configured to change the second audio information from occurring in a third time interval to occurring in a fourth time interval to provide second time-changed audio information; and

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wherein the combiner circuit is further configured to combine the first time-changed audio information with second time-changed audio information to provide the broadcast audio information.

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16. A device according to Claim 15 wherein the processor circuit is further configured to determine that the first time-changed audio information and the second audio information occur during an overlapping time interval; and

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wherein the processor circuit is configured to time-compress the second audio information to occur in the fourth time interval that is greater than the third time interval.

17. A device according to Claim 13 wherein a difference between the first time interval and the second time interval is based on a delay between a transmission time at which the first audio information is transmitted from a source to a destination and a reception time at which the first audio information is received at the destination.

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18. A device according to Claim 13 wherein a difference between the first time interval and the second time interval is based on a delay between a transmission time at which the second audio information is transmitted from a source to a destination and a reception time at which the second audio information is received at the destination.

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19. A computer program product for processing audio information for broadcast to an audience comprising:

a computer readable medium having computer readable program code embodied therein, the computer readable program product comprising:

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computer readable program code configured to change first audio information from occurring in a first time interval to occurring in a second time interval to provide time-changed audio information; and

computer readable program code configured to combine the time-changed audio information with second audio information that is responsive to the first audio information to provide broadcast audio information.

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20. A computer program product according to Claim 19 wherein the first audio information is provided by a first source; and

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wherein the second audio information is provided by a second source that is remote from the first source.

21. A computer program product according to Claim 20 wherein the first audio information is transmitted to the second source over a communications link; and

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wherein the second audio information is transmitted over the communications link to the first source.

22. A computer program product according to Claim 19 wherein the computer readable program code configured to change the first audio information

from occurring in the first time interval to occurring in the second time interval comprises computer readable program code configured to time-expand the first audio information from occurring in the first time interval to occurring in the second time interval that is greater than the first interval.

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23. A computer program product according to Claim 22 wherein the time-changed audio information comprises first time-changed audio information, the computer program product further comprising:

10 computer readable program code configured to change the second audio information from occurring in a third time interval to occurring in a fourth time interval to provide second time-changed audio information; and

wherein the computer readable program code configured to combine comprises combining the first time-changed audio information with second time-changed audio information to provide the broadcast audio information.

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24. A computer program product according to Claim 23 further comprising:

20 computer readable program code configured to determine that the first time-changed audio information and the second audio information occur during an overlapping time interval; and

computer readable program code configured to change the second audio information comprises computer readable program code configured to time-compress the second audio information to occur in the fourth time interval that is greater than the third time interval.

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25. A computer program product according to Claim 19 wherein a difference between the first time interval and the second time interval is based on a delay between a transmission time at which the first audio information is transmitted from a source to a destination and a reception time at which the first audio
30 information is received at the destination.

26. A computer program product according to Claim 19 wherein a difference between the first time interval and the second time interval is based on a delay between a transmission time at which the second audio information is

transmitted from a source to a destination and a reception time at which the second audio information is received at the destination.

27. A computer program product according to Claim 19 wherein a
5 difference between the first time interval and the second time interval is based on a first delay between a first transmission time at which the first audio information is transmitted from a source to a destination and a first reception time at which the first audio information is received at the destination and further based on a difference
10 between the first time interval and the second time interval is based on a second delay between a second transmission time at which the second audio information is transmitted from the destination to the source and a second reception time at which the second audio information is received at the source.

28. A computer program product according to Claim 25 wherein the at
15 least one of the first and second audio information is transmitted over a satellite communications link.

29. A computer program product according to Claim 25 wherein the at
least one of the first and second audio information is transmitted over a voice over IP
20 communications link.

30. A computer program product according to Claim 29 wherein the delay
is estimated based on a quality of service parameter associated with the voice over IP
communications link.

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